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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.		
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE		
RESTON, VA 20191		

EXAMINER	
BASICHAS, ALFRED	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3749	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/02/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com
pto@gbpatent.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/532,101

Applicant(s)

AHN, HEON-SANG

Examiner

Alfred Basichas

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolter (US2003/0129559) in view of Valentino (5,673,802) and Carpenter (6,554,448). Wolter discloses substantially all of the claimed limitations including, among other things,

1. A cake decorating device, comprising: a base 5,12 on a cake 2; a heating unit 16 mounted to the base to emit heat (inherent that a candle will emit heat); and display provided on a vertical wall of the base and including a previously printed message (see at least figs. 5 and 6).

2. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a support plate 5 mounted to an upper surface of the base 12; at least

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one candlestick (see bottom of candle 16) provided on the support plate; and a candle 16 placed on the candlesticks.

4. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a base 5 having a plurality of locking holes 16a thereon; at least one candlestick 16 having a locking pin (see bottom of candle 16) at a lower surface thereof to be fitted into each of the locking holes of the base; and a candle placed on the candlestick.

5. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a plurality of candlesticks each provided with a candle, and adhered onto an upper surface of the base.

Nevertheless, Wolter does not specifically recite:

having a support pin at a lower surface thereof to be pinned, thermosensitive, wherein heat emitted from the heating unit causes a color change of the message, such that said display displays the message

a. As regards the support pins, Valentino teaches a cake decorating device including pins 46 that extend into the cake and thereby provide a firm and stable attachment thereof. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate Valentino's teaching of pins into the invention disclosed by Wolter, so as to provide for a firm and stable attachment thereof.

b. As regards thermosensitive color change, Carpenter teaches a thermosensitive (i.e., thermochromatic) message that changes color from the heat of a candle 25 so as to provide an esthetically pleasing display (see at least col. 8, lines 3-34). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate Carpenter's teaching of a color changing thermosensitive message into the invention disclosed by Wolter, so as to provide an esthetically pleasing display.

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4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolter (US2003/0129559) in view of Valentino (5,673,802) and Carpenter (6,554,448). The combination teaches substantially all of the claimed limitations

3. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a base having a rail groove thereon; at least one candlesticks having a locking part at a lower surface thereof to be fitted into the rail groove of the base; and a candle placed on the candlesticks.

Official Notice is given that claimed attachment arrangements are old and well known in the art. Such an arrangement has the clear and obvious benefit of providing for efficient attachment of various components. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the claimed attachments into the invention taught by the combination, so as to provide for efficient attachment member.

5. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolter (US2003/0129559) in view of Valentino (5,673,802) and Carpenter (6,554,448), and further in view of Zer (5,860,725). The combination of Wolter, Valentino, and Carpenter teach substantially all of the claimed limitations, but does not specifically recite:

6. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a candle-receiving chamber integrated with the base; and a candle having a plurality of candlewicks and received in the candle-receiving chamber.

7. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the heating unit comprises a candle-receiving chamber provided on an upper surface of the base; and a candle having a plurality of candlewicks and received in the candle-receiving chamber.

c. As regards integral components, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated integral components in the invention disclosed by Wolter, since it

has been held that where constituent parts are combined so as to constitute a unitary whole, the unitary whole is deemed integral. *In re Larson*, 144 USPQ 347.

d. As regards a plurality of wicks, Zer teaches a candle 50 utilized in a heat responsive display including a plurality of wicks 52,54,56. Zer teaches that such an arrangement is beneficial by providing for different burning lives in order to allow for the desired effect. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a plurality of wicks as taught by Zer into the invention taught by the above combination, so as to provide for the desired effect.

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolter (US2003/0129559) in view of Valentino (5,673,802) and Carpenter (6,554,448), which combination teaches substantially all of the claimed limitations, but does not specifically recite:

8. The cake decorating device as defined in claim 1, wherein the displaying unit comprises a transfer paper printed by a thermosensitive microcapsule product.

While the reference may be silent as to how the apparatus is manufactured, the prior art apparatus appears to be the same as claimed. This product-by-process limitation would not be expected to impart distinctive structural characteristics to the apparatus.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have utilized any process including that which is recited in the claims to have produced the print.

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7. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolter (US2003/0129559) in view of Valentino (5,673,802) and Carpenter (6,554,448), which combination teaches substantially all of the claimed limitations, but does not specifically recite the claimed shape or relative size. The claimed shape/size/location/orientation is an obvious modification based on design choice, and depends on spatial considerations. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate it into the invention taught by the combination, so as to provide for spatial considerations.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claim have been considered but are not found persuasive.

e. In response to applicant's arguments against the references (top of page 7 regarding Wolter) individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

f. In response to applicant's argument that Carpenter is nonanalogous art, it has been held that a prior art reference must either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the applicant was concerned, in order to be relied upon as a basis for rejection of the claimed invention. See *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 24

USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Carpenter involves printed messages and the esthetics thereof. This is clearly within applicant's endeavor of a display, or the problem of esthetically pleasing display.

g. As regards applicant's assertion that there is no reason to combine Valentino with Wolter, applicant's attention is directed to the rejection above where motivation is specifically recited.

h. As regards applicant's traversal of Zer, applicant directs the examiner's attention to figure 4 of the present invention. Applicant is reminded that although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Applicant further asserts that Zer is not appropriate because it includes additional elements not claimed. Applicant is reminded that the claims are not limited in such a manner as to preclude additional elements. Applicant's assertion that there is "no need to use the candle unit from Zer" is irrelevant.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alfred Basichas whose telephone number is 571 272 4871. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center telephone number is 571 272 3700.

October 17, 2007


Alfred Basichas
Primary Examiner